



## COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

### SUMMARY OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR

#### PAYPOINT H

This is a summary of the principal terms and conditions for Pay Point H at the Commonwealth Secretariat. The full terms and conditions are set out in the Commonwealth Secretariat Staff Rules and Regulations which form part of the contract of all staff members.

#### A. GENERAL

<b>Contract Term</b>	Appointments are on limited term contracts usually of three years. Contracts may be renewed by mutual agreement and subject to fully satisfactory performance. Staff at this level may normally serve for not more than three three-year contracts. The Secretary-General will retain the flexibility to approve or decline extensions as circumstances warrant.
<b>Medical</b>	Appointments are subject to passing a medical examination.
<b>Clearance</b>	Appointments are also subject to clearance to the extent that the candidate's own government raises no objection to their suitability for employment.
<b>Probation</b>	All appointments are subject to a six-month probationary period. This may be extended at the Secretary-General's discretion for up to another six months.
<b>Period of Notice</b>	During probationary service, the appointment may be terminated by the Secretariat giving five weeks notice. Thereafter employment may be terminated by the Secretariat giving six months, or by the staff member giving three months, written notice.
<b>Annual Leave</b>	25 working days per year.
<b>Pension/Gratuity</b>	Staff are eligible to join the Secretariat's Group Stakeholder Pension Plan (GSPP). This is a combination of a group personal pension and a stakeholder scheme. Pension benefits reflect the level of personal contributions and the value of the investments in the personal plan on retirement. The Secretariat contributes 15 per cent of gross salary; personal contributions are subject to limits based on a percentage of earnings depending on age.

Alternatively, staff who do not wish to join the GSPP, may opt to join the gratuity scheme, whereby each month the Secretariat will pay the equivalent of 15 per cent of gross salary into an interest bearing

account. At the end of the contract, the staff member will receive an ex-gratia payment of the cumulative amount including interest. This payment is subject to the Secretary-General's discretion.

Further information on Group Stakeholder Pension and the gratuity scheme can be obtained from the Finance Section through Mrs Rosemary Saverus on 0207 747 6162.

**Retirement Age** 60th birthday.

#### **B. APPOINTMENT OF BRITISH CITIZENS AND UK RESIDENTS**

**Salary** £41,773 per annum gross, subject to deductions of National Insurance contributions and UK income tax. This salary is fully inclusive.

#### **C. APPOINTMENT OF OVERSEAS RECRUITED STAFF**

"Overseas Recruited Staff Member" means an officer of the Secretariat whose stay in the UK is contingent upon their employment with the Secretariat. Should such a staff member acquire or have, while employed in the Secretariat, been entitled to British nationality or residential status in the UK the staff member will cease, from the date of acquisition or entitlement, to be an overseas recruited staff member.

**Salary** As per Salary for Section B. Please note Salaries for overseas staff will be subject to deductions of National Insurance contributions and UK income tax.

**Installation and Termination Grant** Will be provided on commencement and termination of appointment at 7% of net salary.

**Accommodation Allowance** Will be paid monthly at a rate of 30% of gross salary. Please note that this allowance is subject to UK income tax.

**Travel** Upon commencement and termination of service, the staff member and accompanying family members (as defined in Rule 69 (c) and (d) ) will have their air travel costs met by the Secretariat. For exact entitlements regarding class of travel please contact Human Resources Section at the Commonwealth Secretariat.

In respect of the accompanying family members the relevant journey must be made within 6 months of the eligible staff member's own journey.

**Home Leave** The staff member is entitled to home leave once in every three years of qualifying service. Please see Rule 81 in the Sutherland Human Resource Handbook for more information.

**Education Allowance** An education allowance, to assist with tuition fees, board and lodging only, is paid as a reimbursable cost\* for dependant children\* up to the age of 23 provided they are in continuing full-time education in a fee paying institution at the time of the staff member's appointment as follows:-

Up to £3,000 per child per annum for pre-primary school

Up to £4,000 per child per annum for primary & secondary school

Up to £5,000 per child per annum, for tertiary education (only for the first tertiary degree)

**In cases where a dependent child is in full time education overseas, the amount allocated may be used towards air fares for visits to parent(s) in London.**

***Transporting Effects and initial appointment arrangement***

The Secretariat will pay the cost of transporting by sea a staff member's effects up to 500 cubic feet in the case of a single staff member, and up to 700 cubic feet in the case of a married staff member plus an allowance of 100 cubic feet per dependent child\* residing with the head of the family. In addition, up to 15 kilograms of excess accompanied luggage by air will be allowed on joining and termination for the staff member, spouse and each dependent child\*. No separate allowance will be made for transporting an automobile and not more than one automobile may be allowed to be transported. The Secretariat will meet the reasonable cost of insurance of personal effects. For a 20ft container (internal volume of 1,050 cubic ft) the value of goods insured is up to £25,000.

***Subsistence Allowance***

When first taking up an appointment and provided a staff member stays in approved accommodation, subsistence allowance at the appropriate United Nations rate will be paid in respect of the staff member, accompanying spouse (75 per cent) and dependent children\* (50 per cent) for a period of up to two weeks from the date of the staff member's arrival in post. Thereafter, the cost of a furnished apartment will be reimbursed for a period of up to three weeks or until suitable accommodation is secured, whichever is the earlier. Accommodation allowance will then be payable.

***Diplomatic Immunities & Privileges***

There are no diplomatic immunities and privileges attached to the holder of this post. Staff members are expected to observe the laws of the UK and other countries in which they may work. Any involvement with the police or other law enforcement authorities must be reported.

+ on submission of receipts

\* "Dependent child" means an unmarried natural or legally adopted child of the staff member, who normally resides with the staff member and who is under the age of 18 years or, a child under the age of 21 years who is in full time attendance at an educational institution. With regards solely to Education Allowance a dependant child is recognised up to the age of 23. The Secretary-General may also declare a child who is not the natural or legally adopted child of the staff member as "dependent" on the basis of the information provided. The Secretary-General may waive the requirements as to age and attendance at an educational institution where the child is totally and permanently disabled. Unless otherwise specified, no more than three children (as designated by the staff member) will be considered as "dependent" for the purpose of these rules.



COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Human Resources Section

MONITORING FORM - SECRETARIAT HEADQUARTERS

Please complete the form below providing the information to enable us to monitor our recruitment and ensure that our recruitment process is free from bias or unfair discrimination. The Commonwealth Secretariat is committed to observing the principles and practice of Equality of Opportunity in all its activities.

Forename(s).....

Surname.....

Nationality

Please state.....

Gender

Please indicate with an "X" Male ..... Female .....

Date of birth

Day "dd" e.g. "03"	Month "mm" e.g. "10"	Year "yyyy" e.g. "1973"

Disability

Please indicate with an "X" whether you consider you have a disability or not.

Disability: Yes ..... No .....

If you have indicated "Yes" that you do consider you have a disability please details in the space below of any special requirements that you may require when attending for interview or group selection activities so that we can consider how to meet those needs to ensure equality of opportunity.

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Where did you see this post advertised?

Please tell us in which publication or on which website where you saw this vacancy advertised.

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Thank you for completing these details – please make sure you return your completed form with your application.